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By email to: [CabSecREC@gov.scot](mailto:CabSecREC@gov.scot)

Dear Cabinet Secretary

### **Analysis of the *Nephrops* Fishery in Scotland**

Scotland is the largest producer of *Nephrops* in the world. Our *Nephrops* stocks are second only to mackerel in terms of value to the Scottish economy and the *Nephrops* fishery sustains significant levels of employment in many coastal communities right around the Scottish coastline.

In response to the recently published report by the Scottish Creel Fishermen's Federation which called for a reallocation of *Nephrops* quota from the trawl fleet to the creel fleet, the Scottish Fishermen's Federation and the Scottish Fishermen's Organisation jointly commissioned an impartial and comprehensive economic assessment of the entire *Nephrops* fishery and supply chains in Scotland. The aim of the analysis is to provide a balanced, inclusive overview of the entire sector, providing policy-makers with the evidence required to support the decision-making process for this economically important species.

We are now pleased to present you with a copy of this study (enclosed) prior to its publication. It highlights the importance of maintaining diversity in the Scottish *Nephrops* fleet. We hope that you find the analysis informative and we anticipate that the findings will provide an important contribution to our understanding of the need to maintain diversity in the *Nephrops* fishery and supply chains, to the benefit of fishing communities' right across Scotland.

Yours sincerely

Members:

Anglo Scottish Fishermen's Association · Clyde Fishermen's Association · Fife Fishermen's Association · Fishing Vessel Agents & Owners Association (Scotland) Ltd · Mallaig & North-West Fishermen's Association Ltd · Orkney Fisheries Association · Scottish Pelagic Fishermen's Association Ltd · The Scottish White Fish Producers' Association Ltd · Shetland Fishermen's Association

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